

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Agency: ARC

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000218

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing.

ARC - Engagement and Impact trial

Question

In terms of the Engagement and Impact trial:

- (1) What is the rationale for including patent data as a metric for the engagement indicator
 - (a) What type of patent data will you use?
 - (b) What percentage contribution to the engagement metric will patent data contribute?
 - (c) Will the use of patent data and patent cited papers differ between different fields of research?
 - (d) How will you detect and manage a possible flood of patent lodging that might be aimed at "gaming" this particular metric?
- (2) What is the rationale for including patent cited papers as a metric for the engagement indicator
 - (a) What type of patent cited papers data will you use?
 - (b) What percentage contribution to the engagement metric will patent cited papers contribute?
- (3) What is the rationale for including publication analyses as a metric for the engagement indicator
 - (a) What type of publications data will you use?
 - (b) What percentage contribution to the engagement metric will publications analyses contribute?
- (4) What is the rationale for including research income as a metric for the engagement indicator
 - (a) What type of research income data will you use?
 - (b) What percentage contribution to the engagement metric will research income contribute?
- (5) What is the rationale for including co-supervision of HDR students as a metric for the engagement indicator
 - (a) How will you measure co-supervision? Co-supervision with whom?
 - (b) What percentage contribution to the engagement metric will co-supervision contribute?

Answer

The Australian Research Council (ARC) has provided the following response.

A key objective of the pilot is to test methodologies for assessing the engagement of university research beyond academia. The rationale for piloting the range of engagement indicators listed in the question above (i.e. patent data, patent citation data, research output analyses, research income analyses and the co-supervision for HDR students by research end-users) is that they meet this objective.

The specific details for each indicator are as follows:

1. Patent data
 - a. The patent data that will be trialled in the pilot includes counts of patents granted and patent families.
 - b. Panels of experts will conduct assessments based on the suite of engagement indicators submitted for a given unit of assessment and no specific weighting applies to any individual indicator.
 - c. All engagement indicators will be trialled in the pilot within the context of their relevant field of research, with panels of experts assessing the suite of engagement indicators accordingly.
 - d. This indicator collects data of granted patents not the lodging of patents.
2. Patent citation data
 - a. The type of patent citation data that will be trialled in the pilot includes counts of research outputs from Australian universities cited in granted patents.
 - b. Panels of experts will conduct assessments based on the suite of engagement indicators submitted for a given unit of assessment and no specific weighting applies to any individual indicator.
3. Research output data
 - a. The type of research output data that will be trialled in the pilot includes research outputs from a submitting university that is either co-authored or co-funded by research end-users, as well as the proportion of outputs available via open access.
 - b. Panels of experts will conduct assessments based on the suite of engagement indicators submitted for a given unit of assessment and no specific weighting applies to any individual indicator.
4. Research income data
 - a. The type of research income data that will be trialled in the pilot includes the ratio of ARC Linkage grants to ARC Discovery grants, cash and in-kind support from end-users, relevant Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) research income, and research commercialisation income.
 - b. Panels of experts will conduct assessments based on the suite of engagement indicators submitted for a given unit of assessment and no specific weighting applies to any individual indicator.
5. HDR co-supervision data
 - a. The type of HDR data that will be trialled in the pilot includes the number of HDR students co-supervised by research end-users as well as the overall total of HDR students within the relevant field of research.
 - b. Panels of experts will conduct assessments based on the suite of engagement indicators submitted for a given unit of assessment and no specific weighting applies to any individual indicator.